

*A HOUSE OF PRAYER
FOR ALL PEOPLE*

SCIPC Newsletter

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Liz K Davis

Elizabeth K. Davis, 93, passed away on Saturday, February 11, 2017. She was an active member of the Sale Creek Independent Presbyterian Church, where she served as choir director for more than 30 years. She was a seamstress and an amazing cook. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Davis. Survivors include her son, Mark Davis; nieces, Debbie Brooks and Donna Morgan; grandsons, Jefferson Lee Davis and Grayson Kell Davis. The funeral service will be 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017, at Williamson & Sons Funeral Home with Rev. Phil Evaul officiated. Interment followed in Chattanooga National Cemetery. Visitation was held from 4 to 8 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2017, and on Tuesday, February 14, from noon to 1 p.m. Condolences and memories could be shared at www.williamsonandsons.com. Arrangements were by Williamson and Sons Funeral Home, 8852 Dayton Pike, Soddy-Daisy, Tenn., 37379.



Our Financially Supported Missionaries

Dave & Ninette Cox

Fred & Grace Ely

Alec & Tammy Harrison

Dick & Sara Hart

Hazel Neddo

David & Marcia Jones

Our Prayer Supported Missionaries

Mark & Candy Garrett

Reginald Lisemby

Anniversaries

January 15—Cindy & Dale Poole

February 16—Jason & Jennifer Welch

February 18—Robert and Marlene Patterson

March 6—Mike and Barbara Metzger

March 25—Phil and Melinda Evaul

Nursery Schedule

February 5—Jim and Shari Dvorak

February 12—Patti Smith and Charlotte Blake

February 19—David and Linda Lane

February 26—Don and Colleen Fehn

Birthdays

January 21—Kathy Shelley

January 24—Jeff Davis

January 28—Sarah Hart

January 29—Daniel Hart & Barbara Metzger

January 30—Laura Hubbard & Amanda Writesman

February 1—Sandy Weaver

February 3—Allison Coulter

February 6—Cindy Poole

February 11—Jordan Hubbard

February 19—Elijah Coulter

March 2—Peggy Evaul

March 3—Liz Davis

March 14—Liz Reed

March 18—Curtis Coulter & Tammy Harrison

March 23—Carey Jackson

March 26—Brian Evaul

March 29—Guen Evaul



Phil's Corner—— Phil Evaul

A few weeks ago I had the privilege of speaking to the men's prayer breakfast group at First Baptist Church. I'd like to share with you some of the things I shared with them.

Let's talk about Peter. Sometimes I'm jealous of Peter. After all, he spent the better part of three years hanging out with Jesus. He walked with the Lord wherever they went. They ate together. He heard Jesus speaking. They even went fishing together – a very good “guy thing” to do.

Wouldn't it be great if we could spend time with Jesus, face to face? I bet I would be a better disciple if I had been in Peter's shoes – or sandals.

Surprisingly, it's Peter who is jealous of us! It's true. He says, “though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory” (1 Pet. 1:8). Peter is impressed with people like his readers, and us, who have never seen the Savior, we've never met Him or walked around with Him, yet we love Him anyway. The people to whom Peter is writing are suffering a degree of persecution for a Savior they've never met. This fills Peter with admiration.

So, the Big Question I'd like to put before you is this: What do you love?

Do you love the fact that you're a Presbyterian (since this was a Baptist group, I used the word ‘Baptist’)? Are you in love with the fact that you were baptized many years ago? That you're a church leader? That you attended a prayer breakfast early on a Saturday morning instead of fishing?

Or, are you in love with Jesus?

You see, it's possible – likely, even – to do all those things I just mentioned, and more besides, and still not know Jesus, let alone love Him. It's possible to love the Christian religion without loving Christ. It's possible to love doing all the important churchy things we do without knowing or loving Jesus.

Do you remember what Jesus said to the Ephesian Church in Revelation 2:2-4? “I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for my name's sake, and have not grown weary. But I have this

against you, that you have left your first love.”

Do you get it? These people were doing all the good churchy things, even though it was difficult for them. Their doctrine was spot on. They even exposed false teachers. They sound like exemplary Presbyterians! But they didn't love Jesus, and that placed them in grave danger.

Remember that Jesus' worst enemies were the most religious people of His day, the most upstanding citizens in town, the most conservative, the most respected personalities. Yet, in spite of their religion, they killed Him.

One of the saddest and most disturbing passages in the whole New Testament is in Matthew 7:21-23. Jesus said, “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name cast out demons, and in your name perform many miracles?’”

“Lord, I've been a lifelong member of the church. I was there every time the door was open. I more than tithed. I was the first to respond when disasters struck. I was not afraid to pray in public. I handed out tracts. Lord, look at all I've done!”

“And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness.’”

Wow! That should shake us all up.

You see, I fear that many people – no, most people – in the Bible belt love the Christian religion and its trappings; they love their church and their denomination, but they don't love Jesus.

So I leave you with this challenge: spend some time examining your heart and your relationship with Jesus. This isn't something that can be done in the next 30 seconds with every head bowed and every eye closed. I'm calling for serious, extended examination over the next weeks or months. Ask yourself before the Lord, “Do I even know you? Do I really love you, or is it this Christian religion that I love?” Doing those churchy things is fine and good as far as it goes, but WHY are you doing them? Examine your motives. Is it an expression of love for your Savior, or is it really just religious practice?

Do you love Jesus?

The Sale Creek Christmas Program



Clockwise from top left: Jack Traylor played a Christmas carol on his accordion. The low brass combo of Phil, Ian, and Jim. Jim Shelley sang a solo of a Christmas song. Bottom left: The Brown family performed for us their usual Christmas act. Left: Phil watches as one of the Brown sisters plays the harp in front of the Christmas tree.



Church News

Melinda Evaul is playing with the Bryan College Community Symphony. Their performances were a couple of weeks before Christmas. Currently they have started working on material for their spring performance. Jim Dvorak and Phil are playing in a 78-member orchestra in East Brainerd, and Jim also plays tuba in a symphony in Cleveland.

The church mini symphony performed for the deaf and hard of hearing ministry in Chattanooga a couple of weeks before Christmas. Jim Dvorak, Ian Shelley, Kathy Shelley, Elaine Jackson, Phil Evaul, Melinda Evaul, Donna Holcomb, and Curtis Coulter played several selections, and the church provided supper that night. In January the group also played for the Life Care Center in Dayton. Glenn Starnes played piano and Bea Starnes, and Shari Dvorak sang. That was the third time that the group has played for the Care Center.

Raymond Weaver's pond's water level was getting alarmingly low before Christmas before it started to rain. In addition, he pumps water from the pond and the pipes were beginning to be exposed to the freezing weather. As of Sunday February 5 after all the rain we have gotten, the water level is now up two feet and completely covering the pipe. Raymond has a prayer request concerning hay. With last year's severe drought the supply of good hay is in short supply. He needs a supply of either square bales or a round bale or two in order to feed his livestock sufficiently. Right now he has one big round bale left that he is trying to ration out for the *next month until the pasture grass begins to grow*.

January 29th was the 5th Sunday of the month, so this was the fellowship night where we bring soup, salads, finger foods, and desserts and have a fellowship hour instead of the regular church service.

Kathy Shelley makes up the bulletins each week. Many of them have picturesque scenes or landscapes, buildings, barns, birds, and animals. The pen and ink drawing of the church that has adorned several bulletins lately was the gift of Betty List, wife of James List, Bill's younger brother. She was an artist and made a drawing of the church and put it into the frame that hangs at the back door. Some of the photographs are made by Kathy, Jim Shelley, sometimes by Phil. The picture of the clock was made by Kathy. The regulator clock was presented to the church on February 2, 1926 by Harry and Mabel Rogers in honor of their mother who attended the church. The clock is a Waterbury which was made by the Waterbury Clock Company from Waterbury, Connecticut. The church had held its first church service on January 3, 1926.

On Sunday February 5 we had some visitors to our church. Jim and Wanda Dowlen were in attendance. Karin Traylor and Wanda have known each other since they were girls, and they visit occasionally. We were glad to have them in church. Also in attendance was a couple who lived on List Hill 50 years ago. Walt and Beverly Watts lived here during the middle 1960's when Walt was attending Bryan College. Beverly worked at Robinson's Manufacturing Company in Dayton at that time. They lived in Bill List's old house down the hill from the big house. Beverly recalled visiting with Mrs. Gertie List daily and watching television with her. Phil

Harper was also in attendance. We do not get to see Phil a lot, and we always enjoy having him in church.

There have been a large number of our folks sick over the last few weeks. Liz Davis had been in hospice for the last several weeks before she died on Saturday. Phil's mother, Mrs. Evaul, had pneumonia back in December but has now improved. Shari Dvorak's mother is discouraged with things as well. Phil went to North Carolina during the week of February 6-10 to help take care of his mother.

Our church Christmas program was supposed to have been on Sunday night, December 18. The weather that morning was very iffy and looked like a possibility of snow by dark. As a result of that threat and to prevent people from getting out and maybe falling or having a wreck, Phil, the deacons, and elders thought it would be best to postpone the program until after Christmas. Everyone was shocked when the

Amanda and Bucky's house caught fire several months ago and extensive repairs were necessary. They have just recently moved back into the house. Amanda is having some tests run to determine the cause of some physical problems that she is having. She had another test result on Wednesday, February 15 which showed some gastritis which is not the root cause of the mass on her pancreas. Further tests are following, but the family is encouraged so far with all the negative results of existing tests.

Andy Coulter recently lost his job at Lowe's in a restructuring by the company. Many people prayed for him that the Lord would supply him with a job. On Thursday, February 16 Dollar General offered him a job which he accepted. He is to become the store manager for the Dollar General in Lakesite.

We have missed seeing the Hutchings because Don and Helen have both been fighting illness for several weeks. It was good seeing them in church on Sunday morning, February 12.

Myriam's sister Chris and her friend Walter were here for Christmas and for Conrad's sister's funeral. Myriam informed those at prayer meeting on Wednesday, February 15 that she and Christ are going to be flying home to Belgium in the spring to visit their brother.

Stuart Parnell's appeal is progressing in the courts. He has mentioned to Roger Smith his appreciation for the church praying for him during this difficult time in his life.

Mike and Barbara returned to Sale Creek on December 26. They had come down for just a couple of days at the beginning of December in order to bring Barbara's horses before the weather got too bad in Ohio for pulling a horse trailer. Hannah Patterson took care of the horses until Mike and Barbara's return.

The Sunday School class has been studying in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah for the last several weeks. As you recall, those two books were written after the return of the Jews from Babylon in 538 BC.

A special thanks to all who helped decorate the church for Christmas on December 3 and in helping to undecorate on January 9. It is quite a job to do either one, and it always helps to have plenty of people involved.

On January 29 Dan and Lenita Sanders were in attendance. Lenita gave an update on the work being done at Women's Care Center in Dayton. Each year we invite Lenita to come speak to the church about the work they do. Our church freely and generously support the work of Women's Care Center through donations of time and money, the WCC Walkathon, and the baby bottle cash program. This year the baby bottles were discontinued in lieu of a small envelope for your contribution (a copy of which is shown on the following page).

Shari and Myriam are missionary chair persons this year. They keep up with any and all news coming from our missionaries. If you have questions or prayer requests for any of the missionaries, contact

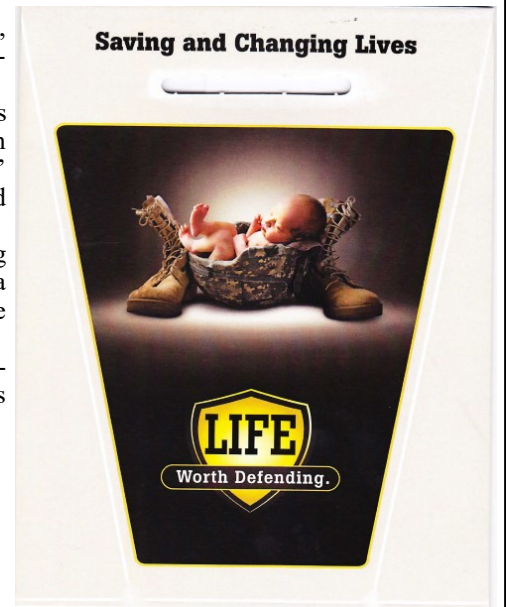
Church News and Prayer Requests

either one of them. One item of prayer and concern is Dick and Sarah Hart's son, Daniel, who is assigned to a new beat in Memphis. He is a patrolman on the Memphis City Police.

Roger Coulter is heavily involved in the tax preparations for H&R Block. This is a tiring work but one that he thoroughly enjoys doing. Keep Roger and Chris in your prayers. Cathy Lynn and Laura come down nearly every day to get Chris' evening meal while Roger works at Block. Several people have been bringing food that can be warmed up quickly for meals.

Karin informs us that LouAnn is having a very difficult time with recurring thrush in her mouth. All kinds of medicines have been used to no avail. She has a doctor's appointment in the coming week to see if there is some underlying cause for this. Pray that they will find a way to treat this painful condition.

Pictured below is a thank you note received from a 6th grader at Ooltewah Middle School thanking the church for the gift that was given to the Bible in the Schools program back in November.



Dear BITS Donor

Thank you, this class means so much to me because it gives students a chance to learn about God if they don't get the chance at home.

Sincerely
Lynsie, 6th Grade

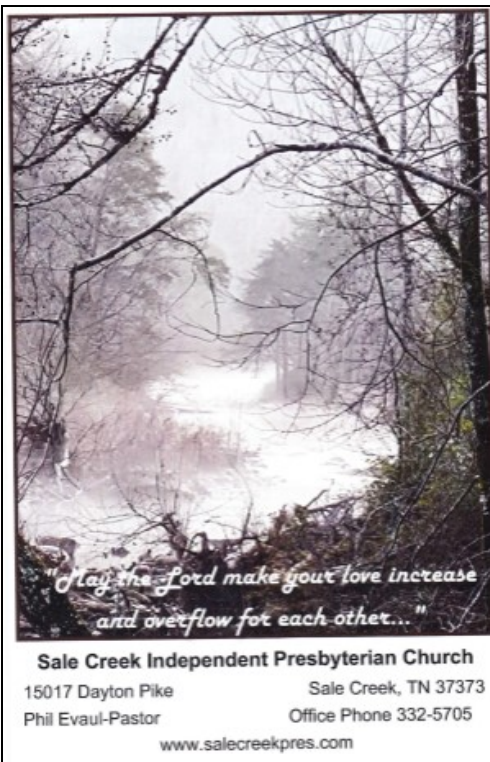
Sale Creek Independent Presbyterian Church

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February 2017 Newsletter



Shown at right and left are two recent bulleting covers. The one on the left was taken by Patti Smith, and the one on the right was taken by Phil Evaul. With the prevalence of desktop publishing programs like MicroSoft Publisher and Page Maker, it is easy to take pictures and insert them into documents like this.

